



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Earl Bakken was born in Columbia Heights, Minnesota on January 10, 1924, and graduated from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities in 1948; and
- WHEREAS: Earl served the United States through his passion for science as an airborne radar maintenance instructor during World War II; and
- WHEREAS: In 1949, Earl co-founded Medtronic, now the world's largest medical device company, with a vision for making lasting and positive changes in the lives of patients; and
- WHEREAS: Earl's 1960 mission statement for Medtronic remains in place today: "To contribute to human welfare by application of biomedical engineering in the research, design, manufacture, and sale of instruments or appliances that alleviate pain, restore health, and extend life;" and
- WHEREAS: Earl was an early pioneer of pacemaker medical technology, and his invention of a wearable, battery-powered pacemaker led to Medtronic becoming the world's leading manufacturer of cardiac pacemakers, saving lives around the globe; and
- WHEREAS: In 1975, Earl Bakken founded The Bakken Museum in Minneapolis to share his enthusiasm for science and innovation with others, and to inspire young people to engage in science, technology, and the humanities; and
- WHEREAS: Earl has been recognized for his life-saving and entrepreneurial efforts through countless honors, including being recognized as an honorary Fellow in the American College of Cardiology and the International College of Surgeons, and being elected to the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame; and
- WHEREAS: Earl truly cared for those around him. Celebrating Earl's generosity and kindness, the Medtronic Foundation started the Bakken Invitation to honor those who have faced life-threatening illnesses, gained "extra life" through medical technology, and are now working to transform health care and affect change; and
- WHEREAS: Earl Bakken retired from Medtronic on his 65th birthday, January 10, 1989, and passed away on October 21, 2018, at the age of 94. His legacy as a pioneer and visionary for people in the state of Minnesota, and around the world, is lasting.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, November 7, 2018, as:

EARL BAKKEN DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 6th day of November.


GOVERNOR